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as a candidate of
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e Twenty-first Assembly District.

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Republican nomination for Member of Assembly,
HORATIO P. ALLEN.

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WANTED TO HIRE-5X10 CARROM BILLIARD Table, for private use. Address E. D. H., 16 East Thirty-sixth street.

SHIPBUILDING ON LONG ISLAND.

What is Being Done at the Yards in Brooklyn-The Workingmen's Com-plaint Against the Government-How the Navy Department Could Have Assisted Them-The Work in Progress at the East End of Long Island.

The opening of the year finds the shipyards in Brooklyn unusually dull. Only three or four have any business on hand, and there is but little prospect of a change for the better. "A tour along the river front tells the story of almost general stagnation in the trade in the most forcible language. Groups of men are observed on every corner in msburg, Greenpoint and Hunter's Point, and in the majority of instances their conversation is directed to the "rough times," as they the present dull season, and they do not indulge in very sanguine anticipations for the future. In two yards there was found something like activity, and which reminded one of the busy days of other years when ores of vessels were on the stocks at the same time across the river and thousands of stalworth workmen were engaged in their construction. These places were those of Mr. Joseph B. Van Deusen, foot of North Seventh street, Williamsburg, and Mr. James D. Leary, in the same neighborhood. Mr. Van Deusen is building two large propellers for service on Long Island Sound, which ii be finished in the early spring, in order to open the route, which is to be from New York to New Bedford. So far progressed is one of the vessels that it is anticipated she will be ready to launch about the 20th of February. These propellers are of the following dimensions:—Length of keel, 175 feet; length over all, 195 feet; breadth of beam (moulded), 33 feet; depth of hold, 13 feet; tonnage, about 1,200 tons. The frames are of wnite oak principally, and fastened in the most thorough manner, great strength being sought after in their construction more particularly than anything else, though they will be very fast and exceedingly comfortable. The machinery of the vessels is now being manufactured at the Delamater Iron Works, and will be ready to put in its place without dethe route, which is to be from New York to New Bed being manufactured at the Delamater Iron Works and will be ready to put in its place without de and will be ready to put in its place without de

of New Bedford, and the second city of mancierier. Mr. Van Deusen's work will give employment to a goodly number of artisans during the winter. In the yard of Mr. Leary there is being finished a barge 160 teet long and 34 feet wide, to be ased in transporting cattle from Long Dock, Jersey City, to Forty-second street, North River. This is the third barge of like dimensions that Mr. Leary has built for the same parties, but there is no prospect at present of further work of the kind. A large number of men are here employed in contracting gun carriages for the government, which work will continue for some time to come. This ends most of the construction of vessels in Williamsburg and surrounding places, and though it is a beggarly list to present it affords a striking contrast to the "good old times?" for ship cargenters tew years since.

In conversing with the more intelligent of the unemployed in this branch of business there is jound a deep sented feeling against the government regarding what is termed the favoritism and unjust discrimination of the officials in the Nicestand Popular was active to white the times there was given large iron works in New York, Philadelphia, Chester, Wilmington and other places, \$5,000,000 or \$5,000,000 or the of reparting, and directions were given that the establishments should hurry all that was possible their machinist labor at night and on Sundays. While the men who build machinery and construct and repair fron vessels have thus been benefited the workers in wood have been left out in the cold. While our navy is filled with rotten craft, and the navy yards running over with workmen from all parts of the country, put in their places and retained through political influence, the artisans of New York think that the government might have given them a chance with the tollers in iron. They feel and have long felt that a few hundreds of thousands of dollars expended on the snips in the navy, and the country, put in their places and retained through political influence, the artisans

SUDDEN DEATH.

Coroner Woltman was yesterday called to No. 321 West Twenty-fifth street to hold an inquest over the remains of Bridget Burns, a corpulent woman, thirty-three years of age, and a native of Ireland, who died suddenly, as is believed, from natural causes. Deceased had been under the care of Dr. Morton, of Twenty-fourth street.

ASHANTEE.

Herald Special Correspondence from the Seat of War on the Gold Coast.

ELMINA AND ITS PEOPLE.

The Composition of Ecra Quamin.

SWORN THE KING'S BIG OATH."

Awaiting the Arrival of the White Troops.

A LA MAGDALA.

ELMINA, Gold Coast, West Africa, Dec. 8, 1873.

I am writing from the old Dutch town of Elm or the "mine," whence the Portuguese, who armed the revenues of the Gold Coast in the sixteenth century, obtained ingots and gold dust enough to stir the kings of Portugal to mightier and grander achievements, which finally culminated in the discoveries of the Eastern and Western Indies. I love the old town for its associations and its history, for the impetus it gave to civiliza-tion, for the fair promise that it held out to Don Juan and his brave Captain of an empire to be established, of the redemption of Africa by means of the Catholic missionary; a dream, however, that has not yet been realized, and never will be by its present holders, but may be by a younger and more vigorous nation, such as Germany.

THE CASTLE OF ST. GEORGE, a tail mass of white buildings, stands on a spit of land to my right; the Castle of San Iago, situate on a hill which commands the town of Elmina and Castle of St. George stands on my left. The harbor of Elmina, formed by the River Beyan, is between the castles. The town of Elmina groups itself at the base of San Iago, and then straggles in two irregular lines along the shore of the Bay of It probably contains a population of 5,000 souls in time of peace, but just now the warriors have been mustered in as auxiliaries of the English against the Ashantees, white the drones have been captured by pressgangs and enrolled as carriers to convey material of war from Cape Coast to the front. The people do not like this state of things, it is in such striking contrast to what they have been accustomed to under the benign rule of the Dutch. They feel aggrieved that they are com-pelled to do service under a flag which they never acknowledged, that they are forced to fight against the Ashantees, a people whom they were accustomed to look upon as allies and friends in the old days.

THE ELMINAS

see a vast difference between their treatment by the Dutch and the English. The Dutch indulged them in long-winded palavers in the castles, treated their chiefs with deference and respect, were merciful to their foibles, their old customs and their ignorance. The English are brusque and peremptory in their dealings with them; absolve them from attending at palavers; content themselves with giving them orders and seeing that such orders are carried out by armed police; pooh-pooh their antiquated and ignorant objections; keep watch and ward over them with a martial vigilance; drive their warriors to fight against old friends, and press men to transport service without so much as asking the consent of their chiefs. All these peremptory doings of the English are sources of grievance.

AFRICAN LINGUISTS.

Mostly all the Elminas can speak Dutch fluently, because the Dutch were accustomed to keep two-schoolmasters at the fort for the instruction of their subjects. There are several clever mechanics and sailors among them also, whom the English find exceedingly useful at the present busy time.

The superiority of this town over Cape Coast as the headquarters of the British on the Gold Coast is at once seen by any one coming here for the purpose of comparing the advantages of the two towns. The people, in the first place, are very much more advanced than those of Cape Coast. The Dutch have mingled more with them and inculcated in them industrious habits, and their in-The castles are stronger and better adapted for defence, the country is healthier and might be made much more so, until, in fact, fevers would be as rare as in any part of Europe. Then, as a last argument in favor of Elmina over Cape Coast, the former has a harbor which is accessible to boats at high tide, and, with a little outlay and a small dredging machine, small schooners under tons might enter with ease and safety—a very important thing for Gold Coast, which has not a single harbor where a ship's boat can land with safety. I should say that an outlay of £20,000 would make Elmina a first class harbor. The sand and mud at the bar and in the river are the only impediments, which, however, are easily removable. As large schooners once floated in the harbor, there is no reason why they should not float again even in

deeper water.

The civil commandant, Captain Helden, of the Second West India regiments, is doing a good work, however, and in the right direction. It is a step which, if followed up by the colonial authorities, would lead towards establishing Elmina as head-quarters and promoting the commerce of the Gold Coast. The runs that have disfigured the neighborhood of the castle of St. George since the de-struction of the native town last June by the launches and boats of the English fleet are being removed by convict labor, and a wide embankment being constructed along the right bank of the Beyah, which will confine the waters to narrower limits and enable the swift ebb current to deepen the harbor. When the ruins have been cleared a noble promenade or plaza worthy of a European watering place will be left exposed to the cool breezes of the sea, which will insure to the European quarter, or the town of Elmina, as it is now, an unpolluted atmosphere and a healthy future. The prospect is encouraging, and if only the authorities abandon that nest of malaria and sickness, Cape Coast, and remove to Eimina, and continue the good work of improvement, which would be a pleasure to most people, on considering the vast advantages to be derived from them in a sanitary, social and moral sense, Elmina will have been the means of removing from the Gold Coast much of the evil character it now bears.

By my visit to Elmina I have been fortunate in ecuring the results of an interview one of the government employés had with a messenger who was sent to Amonquatian, the Ashantee Generalin-Chief. Some things here reported are very start-ling, which those who read may digest thoughtfully. It is surprising that while England has braced herself at last, after infinite grimaces of disgust and expressions of discontent, to wage war from Cape Coast to Coomassie against Ashantee, that such a letter as is here spoken of should have been sent to the Ashantees. If true, I take the letter to be most humiliating to the pride of any nation, great or little. I cannot conceive the possibility of an officer stooping so low as even to be the bearer of such a letter, which is nothing more than a confession of weakness and inability to cope with Ashantee and the African climate.

Ashantee and the African climate.

THE COMPOSITION OF RURBA QUAMIN, OF SILMINA, WHO WAS SENT BY THE GOVERNOR OF ELMINA TO THE SENTIOR GENERAL, AMANEWATSIA, IN ASHANTEE CAMP, WITH A LETTER.

The Chief Quamina Esferie sent to call me from my house about the hour of 7 P. M. and I did went; he told me, I'm going to send you; Will you go or not 7 but I asked him, Where' he said to Ashantee camp with a letter to the Hig General there; I told him I shall not go, for fear I may be killed; but he said, it is quite impossible for Ashantees or any other nation in time of war to kill or detain any ambassador, and therefore you must go without lear.

Meantime, I agreed to go, in about the hour of

3A. M. In the next morning he came and awoke me, and take me direct to the Governor in Castle, then he, the Governor in Castle, then he, the Governor handed me the letter and delivered one ashantee man who was taken as slavery during this war to accompany me, he the Governor instructed me not to deliver the said letter to any different person except the General Amankwatsia whom in his name the letter is addressed, he the Governor gave me and the Ashantee man los, and few biscuits &c. as subsistence, shortly after this, we departed from the Governor & began our journey, in about 12 o'clock in the same day, we met in a distance where require one-hour's distance more to reach the Ashantee camp two men of the Ashantees whom inquired us, were you the messengers that was send from Elmina? I said, Yes; they asked me, what news? I said with a letter, to the General, they said deliver to as the letter, I said, no; but I will do so unless I meet the General face to face meantime they returned quitely with us till we came to the General, there we greet him meantime he commanded all his Chiefs to sit, when they all sat, he the General called me to state or declare the message I bronght, in the same time I did humbly raise up and said to the General.

Here your jetter send by me from the Governor

General,
Here your letter send by me from the Governor
of Elmina with greeting; The General asked me if I
know a letter to read it myself, but I said, no, then
he said to bring one scholar native of Aquapim m
Accra and was taken as slavery during the war to
come and read or explain the letter, who explained

come and read or explain the letter, who explained as fellows:—

The Queen of Engeland greet you and found you to be the only nowerful in this Coast, which she sincerely wish you prosperous victory. The Merchant in Engeland greed you and require you to make out your bill for expenses already rendered during this war and they will pay you, so therefore I deem it advisable for yon to go back your country or go and made your aboad behind the River Pra, for in the place you now occupy is under the Queen's protection and also you and your master (the King of Ashantee) are not fit to resist her power, The Queen allowed you two week to remove this place otherwise unpleasant steps will be taken against you, the Queen will be glad that you may not kill the messenger for God sake and to return him with a speedy reply.

messenger for God sake and to return him with a speedy reply.

Governor of Cape Coast first he presented them gold \$8 when they went away the next day I also went to him and asked when I may be ready to go my Lord? He said away from me, you will never go to Elmina, for you Elminas are rogues I'm going to deliver you to the King of Ashantee, there he will give you answer to go if he please, I said its not lawfull any messenger to be detained, he said, will you be silence! I said, I will my Lord; he said I will behead you if you in mind to run away; meantime I sworn the King's Big oath that if I was caught running away my said its not lawfull any messenger to be detained, he said, will you be silence!! I said, I will my Lord; he said will behead you if you in mind to run away; meantime! sworn the King's Big oath that if I was caught running away my head must be cut off; in the next day we marched away from that place with a package on my head, and my cloth was been striped off from me, we came to pass by the white troops time at Camp Napoleon or Kakomidoe they said the white troops there are not more, but will go near where their capital is, so we went a portion of Doonkow in the midle of tick bush, there we can't get any thing at all to eat, and we take 15 days good to reach Doonkow, during the time having nothing at all to eat and I could swear upon my ster that over two hundred souls died with hunger during our 15 days journey, after two or three days in the Bush, the White troops came and fired at them both side retreated, but in next day was Thursday not a lucky day for them in fighting they said; but the young men, especially the princes, and sons of Lords stated, let us go and attack or fired at these foolish Whitemen to-day as because we are the power. When the interpreter these explained, all the people gave andience; in the same evening another messengers whom were Policemen brought another letter which the interpreter stated it was addressed The King of Ashantee but the General said it must be opened for he is at liberty to do wnat he seems right, but his Chiefs oppose to it, afterwards I learned the letter was been opened in private and the contends is just same as the above, in case one will not reach the other might reach him; Before I was not yet send with the above letter to the General said it must be opened for he is at liberty to do wnat he seems right, but his Chiefs oppose to it, afterwards I learned the letter was been opened in private and the contends is just same as the above, in case one will not reach the other might reach him; but his Mandentan form and manner with both their feed and dire, and it is away so as we may have the chaüce, who went in those days fought battle, but never succeed—same time these princes and all the troops of Amankwatsia marched about one hour aiper I heard fire was given and as a prisoner I lay down my package and seated where the Hig General is, the General immediately put on his war dresses and took something to eat from his package and opened his eyes into it, but he found the thing showes him bad thing which he marshed with his teeth, and smote with his hands upon his breast and prayed to his several gods of stook, drams, &c., they tryed all with their power if they could overcome the white troops, so do so claims the General road, amunitions and eatable from the White troops but in vain; The Princes sons of Lords and chiefs, both soldiers that was died above 2,000 and the numerous that was wound is not to be supposed to live in this world, even the General road and trains been assist, over the General road and the numerous that was died above 2,000 and the numerous that was wound is not to be supposed to live in this world, even the General road and the road of the supposed to live in the supposed to live in this world, even the General road and the supposed to live in the supposed to supposed to supposed to suppose the live in the live of the supposed to suppose the live in the supposed to suppose the live in the suppose of the supposed to suppose the live in the suppose of the suppose of the supposed to suppose the live in the suppose of the su

The news from the front is

and uninteresting. A skirmish between the advanced iorces and the retreating laggards of the enemy happens now and then, which has a local interest, and suffices to give the weary souls of Cape Coast something to talk about; but nothing of vital importance or interest can possibly happen until the white troops make their appearance.

Colonic Evelyn Wood is reported to have had muite a brush, however, between Fassar and Sutquite a brush, however, between Passar and Suttah, distant sixty-two miles and forty-four miles

econnoissance, and had reached half way with his and a few hundred native allies, when a large body of the enemy suddenly attacked it on sides. Though taken somewhat by surprise he instantly formed square, putting the transport porters in the centre, with their burdens, and in this position fought, it is said, for three hours; after which he retreated in order to Suttah, the point he started from. He lost but few men comparatively, while the enemy's audacity was put

Hardly a day passes, however, but a few are wounded on either side. The Ashantees keep well under cover of bush, and the British allies stick to the protection of the palisades until they emerge out in strong parties to reconnoitre. This state of affairs will, of course, continue until the Prah has been gained and the white troops will come out, when something more decided will be done.

Sir Carnet informed me the other day that a great a force will ultimately move upon Coom as Napier marched upon Magdala. This force will be made up of three battalions of the line (white), one battation of marines and sallors (white), one battery of Boyal Artillery (white), one company of Royal Engineers (white), two battalions of West Indians, one battalion of Houssahs, two battalions of native allies. Total about

NINE THOUSAND MEN. You may imagine, then, with what interest we all wait the arrival of the white troops. Their very presence will revive every sick man in Cape Coast, and inspire every weary correspondent who finds the task of feeling interested in these petty skirmishes that now take place a work of real diff culty. Their absence in the meanwhile, causes almost every man to sicken of inactivity more than the malaria. It is the inactivity to which we are compelled that I ascribe the sickness and

overpowering lassitude which has already prostrated so many. There is really nothing to write about, nor hardly anything to talk about. We make the most we can of every little incident that comes to our notice, and in the absence of anything of real importance, we are inclined to think

skirmishes great battles.

Sir Garnet must have felt that he was bound to do something to revive his fading energy, when he last week took to his mind to go to the front to examine personally into the state of the advance stations. He travels slowly from place to place, as he has found out that it is highly dangerous in this chiate to expose himself too freely. Some have expressed an opinion that it is very unlikely that he will see the end of this expedition, simply because he was too advanced in life to begin an expedition into Africa, and that the climatic influences will tell severely on his frame. With this opinion, however, I disagree. Sir Garnet is not over forty years old, and is the youngest General in the British service. To choose a younger man, to entrust the command of the expedition to a young lieutenant colonel. However, Sir Garnet looked remarkably well and hearty, and his indomitable energy promised everything that could be required in a man to fill his position. If Sir Garnet should become invalided through fever or other sickness it will be because he exposed himself too freely to the sun and climate before active operations began, and, to tell the truth, because the doctors of his staff have coddled him too much. It is not every man that is a doctor who is fit to follow an army to Africa in that capacity. Some medical men, when they have to treat a genera with medicine for a slight ailment, make a great deal too much fuss about the matter and confine him to his bed, when, for his health's sake, he ough to be stirring. I think this has been the case with General Sir Garnet Wolseley.

We have lately had auxiliaries from Bonny. Prince Charles Pepple and Prince John Jumbo have arrived with a force of 100 men from King Peppe and King Oko Jumbo—the rival of the famous Ja Ja Jumbo—of Bonny, to fight against the Ashantees. The young princes have been educated in England, and are as proficient in what they have acquired at school as white boys would be.

ART MATTERS.

Foreign Art Notes.

Mr. Walter Brackett's four fine pictures of salnon, which were exhibited in New York a twelvemonth ago, recently won great admiration at the Crystal Palace, England. During the banquet given to the Shah they were placed in the Queen's corridor. The President of the Grand Trunk Railroad, Mr. Richard Potter, has since purchased

Every one who has seen the Prince Consort Memorial, and admired the workmanship of Sir Gilbert Scott, its creator, and of Mr. Skidmore, Mr. Clayton, Mr. Armstead, Mr. Philip, Mr. Bell and the Messrs. Salviati, will probably feel interested the steps are 396 piers and 868 arches. The total length of granite steps is two miles and a quarter, and the number of steps are 1,803. Some of the blocks of granite in the podium weigh fifteen tons. The sub-plinths of the bases of col-umns are two stones, each stone weighing ten tons, and the bases themselves in single blocks, when unwrought, weighed seventeen tons and a half each. The working of each of these stones occupied twelve men sixteen weeks and cost £250, The length of polished granite columns is 791 feet The length of polished granite columns is 791 feet in fitty-six stones. The blocks forming the capitals each weighed, before being wrought, thirteen tons and a quarter. The mechanical appliances were so perfect that the whole of the work above the podium, including the great columns, the arches, the pinnacles, gables and groining, was erected in thirteen weeks. The iron girder which carries the fleche weighs twenty-three tons, and the weight resting upon it is 210 tons. In a book just published in London by John Murray, describing and illustrating the monument, Sir Gilbert Scott says that, though adopting the style of a Gothic cross, he has not followed any existing type, but has struck out one especially suited to this individual object. The great purpose of an architectural structure, as a part of the memorial, is to protect and overshadow the statue of the Prince. This idea is the key-note to the design, and Sir Gilbert Scott's next leading idea has been to give to this overshadowing structure the character of a vast shrine, enriching it with all the arts by which the character of preciousness can be imparfed to the object which it protects. The idea, then, which Sir Gilbert has worked out may be described as a colossal statue of the Prince, placed beneath a vast and magnificent shrine or tabernacle, and surrounded by works of sculpture illustrating those arts and sciences which the Prince fostered and the great undertakings which he originated.

Chatto & Windus, of, London, have brought out, under the title of "A Gallery of Illustrious Literary Characters," a reproduction of the sketches by Maclise, representing individuals celebrated in London in 1830 to 1838. The Athenwam says:—

Their humor is of a fine kind. Look at this tailor's Adonis Count D'Orsay, the fishy man about town what a volume of humor there is william Godwin, thurfing along past that bookshep, which have yound not have been surprised if the earth, opening, had swallowed it up; there goes Godwin, with his prodigious hat, his hands inked beh tals each weighed, before being wrought, thirteen

Mr. Watts' portrait of Mr. Mill is in the possession of Sir Charles Dilke, to be engraved by M. Rajon.

The collection of engravings and drawings formed at the commencement of the last-century by Mr. Hugh Howard has recently been sold by Messrs. Sotheby, Wikinson & Hodge, of London, and produced about \$25,000 in gold. "Campagnola," an early impression of St. John, £131. Engravings:—A. Dürer, "Adam and Eve," £59; "Melencolia," £40; "Angles of the Sistine Chapel," G. Ghisi, £80; "Tempitation of Adam," by Lucas van Leyden, £28; "Lot and his Daughters," £181; "Virgin and Child," £69; "Mars and Cenus," £36; "Hercules Fighting the Setgent," by A. Mantegna, £30; "An Oriental," by B. Montagna, £51, and "Portrait of Aretino," by Marc Antonio, £780, the highest price ever given for a single print since the saie, at the same rooms, when Sir Charles Price's impression of "Rembrand's Hundred Guider Piece," bought by Mr. Palmer for £180, was resold for £1,190, and purchased by M. Du Thuit, Regravings by Marc Antonio—"Adam and Eve," £69; "Massacre of the Innocents," £77; "Madonna Lamenting the Dead Christ," £38; "The Last Supper," £105; "Mary and Martha Ascending the Steps of the Temple," £31; "Madonna Seated on the Clouda," £180; "Christ Seated on the Clouda," £59; "Cupid and the Graces," £25; "Apollo and Hyacinthus," £38: "Trojan Victorious." £32.

THE COST OF COAL.

The Effect of the Miners' Strike in the Coal Market-What the "Combination" Will Accomplish-Coal to Open at a Low Price Next Spring, with a Prospective Advance of Ten Cents Per Month.

The news of the great miners' strike in the Wilkesbarre, Sugar Notch, Hartford and Plymouth districts, published in the Herald from day to day, has excited a great deal of interest among the coal companies in this city, particularly among those who belong to the famed "combination." HERALD reporter conversed with the presidents and other officers of the leading companies on Satgreat interest in view of the powerful "combina-tion" which has been formed for the estensible purpose of limiting the production of anthracite and maintaining its price at a living rate. Mr. Sloan, the President of the Scranton

Company, at the corner of William street and Exchange place, gave his views readily.

this great strike of the miners ? Mr. SLOAN-It must undoubtedly have a t dency to advance the price of coal, and, if it should continue long, to diminish the production. WHAT PHASE THE STRIKE MAY ASSUME

and to what extent even a prolonged strike would be able to influence the prices and production of coal. Thus far we have seen no signs of disaffec tion in our district, although we are working on a

diminished rate of production. REPORTER-Will the price of coal be higher or ower this year than it was last?

Mr. SLOAN-Uh, it certainly won't be any lower. You see, the very severe losses year before last compelled the companies to come to this agree ment, which is so bitterly denounced as a "combination," and which simply means to maintain the prices at "a living rate," that is all. We suffered such heavy losses in 1872 that we have now agreed to produce less coal and sell at rates that will pa reasonable wages to miners and a reasonabl profit to the owners. The prices last year did not advance materially, and trade is satisfactory to dealers, who want, first of all, steady prices and dislike violent fluctuations. This new arrangement secures a fair, reasonable profit to all parties, and there is not a shadow of truth in the statements that the "combination" means to allow undue exactions and desires to exercise an undue influence upon the coal market. As to the trouble among the miners, which threaten TO ADVANCE THE PRICE OF COAL,

I may state that we have about 10,000 to 12,000 miners and 5,000 to 6,000 employés on the railroad, and have thus far had no difficulty with them. REPORTER-Will the consumption of coal proba-

bly be great this year? Mr. SLOAN-I think it will be greater than it was ast year. Pil tell you why. The iron trade was very depressed last year and has begun to revive, and this, of course, is a very important item indeed. Owing to the unprecedented mildness of the winter thus far the consumption of the sizes for domestic use has fallen off considerably. The anthracite beds, as you know, are in a little district in Pennsylvania, and anthracite coal must ecome much more valuable in the future than it has been in the past. Our coal lands are now much less valuable than they are in England and other European countries, and I am convinced that the comparative cheapness of coal and iron ores in this country will give us a very great advantage in the manufacture of iron. I think there is a great future in store for America in its ores and

COSI.

REPORTER—If the strike should spread would it be difficult to replace the strikers by other miners? Mr. SLOAN—Oh, no; there is a great surplus of labor. But it would certainly have a tendency to advance the prices. In a few days we shall be better able to tell

advance the prices. In a few days we shall be better able to tell THE UPSHOT OF THIS DIFFICULTY.

Mr. Quintard, the general agent of the Reading Company, No. 9 Broad street, was out of town, and his views could, therefore, nor be ascertained. One of the minor officials, however, said:—"If our miners join those of the wilkesbarre Company in the strike we may have considerable trouble. As to the effect this would have on the general condition of the coal trade there are now so many avenues of supply to this port that the extent of the advance could hardly be foretoid with any degree of accuracy."

Mr. Tillinghast, of the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Company (this is to be the new name under which the two old companies will do business), at No. 30 Broadway, said that the reports in regard to the strike had been exaggerated by some of the newspapers. Two days ago he had received a letter from his agent at the mines stating that there was no serious trouble among their men. In a day or two he expected to receive accurate information regarding the cause and extent of the strike if there was one.

REPORTER—What is the difficulty, then, at present?

Mr. Tillinghast—We have stopped our works for repairs, as we always do at the beginning of every new year. Our men

Mr. TILLINGHAST—We have stopped our works for repairs, as we always do at the beginning of every new year. Our men are contents of the house of a the beginning of every new year. Our men are contents with the propose of array thmseelves against us. We have not reduced their wages, and do not propose doing so. We shall resume work in some of our mines early next week, and shall extend the resumption of operations gradually. It is barely possible that the men on the Schujkill may go farther than we have thus far had reason to anticipate, and spread the disaffection among our other men. I shall be able to say something definite about this in a few days.

Reporter—Is there any truth in the popular ramors that the combination mean to bring about a coal lamine, such as the English people have suffered from?

Mr. TILLINGBAST—Oh, no; not in the least. We do not want a "coal lamine," as you call it, we only want fair prices—the prices of last year. I can tell you now that coal will not open higher next spring than it did last year. If the price of coal was to decline in the spring, with the chance of a still further decline in the fall, nobody would buy coal, and the mines would nave to be stopped, while in the fall everybody would rush for coal, thereby causing a sudden and considerable advance. In order to avoid this we shall open with the same prices which we had last year, with an advance

OP TEN CENTS PER MONTH.

The prices on April 1, 1873 (with which we shall

while in the fall everybody would rush for coal, thereby causing a sudden and considerable advance. In order to avoid this we shall open with the same prices which we had last year, with an advance of the comment of

higher than in the previous year. The pituminous coal was still not dear when i penses of mining were taken into considers. A prominent manufacturer, who is a heat consumer, stated that the great demand people was for cheap coal for domestic us that the miners should not insist upon an a of wagea, which would necessarily make conference. In regard to this particular point ever, many different opinions were expressions under the consumer of this city. ever, many different opinion consumers of this city.

OUR MARITIME FRONTIER.

Key West in War Times and in Peace-Life on This Wretched Isle of the Sea-An Excuse for Being-The Fleet and Maval Preperations—The End in Smake.

Some cities have days of greatness thrust upon them and, after a time, relapse into the insig-nificance from which historic events have dragged them. Key West is a worthy example. From a nest of fishers' huts prior to the war a mu prosperity has developed it into a city. It is no more the key to the Guif than the most insig-nificant port in Yucatao. What should induce any foreign Power to want to possess this poor, foreign Power to want to possess this poor, wretched key I cannot imagine. Commanding a prominent place in the history of our late war from its being for a long time the only Southern port in the possession of the federal government, like many individuals who owe their rise to army contracts, discounting its possible desuny, it assumes to be a city of the greatest commercial im-

fines impartially.

From being the base of supplies for the Gulf and most of the Atlantic blockading squadron, it degenerated into a mart famous only for poor cigars and sponges. Left to govern itself after the war closed, it assumed all the gaudiness of a Tammany municipal régime. It found that a large police force was needed, and, to facilitate matters, the Major's office was located in the loft over a ginmill, from which most of the unbappy victims came who were mulcted for fines and officers' fees. It is true that the worthy guardians of the peace appear on duty in their bare feet, smoking cigars and drinking anybody's health who will stand treat, but their purpose is always firm for the best interests of the city treasury. They generally arrest the wrong parties, but the Mayor assesses his

WHY KEY WEST IS. Yet Key West has an excuse for its existence, and its reason for being a prosperous outpost on our maritime frontier. It is the best point of calls on the Atlantic coast. Havana in our hands would, of course, swamp it in that sense; but Havana under Spanish administration, with its port against foreign vessels and its extravagant official and non-official exactions; stimulates the growth of the freer port opposite. Key West is in direct telegraphic communication with Enrope. It is at the entrance of the Gulf and midway between the North American and South American ports. Thus, vessels leaving Europe with a cargo of general merchandise to be disposed. of at such port in America as

of at such port in America as offers a return cargo can be started westward for a market, to call at Key West for orders. From here, the owners having the advantage of the time; consumed in the voyage to gain the latest market; intelligence, such vessels can be ordered north or south—say to Charleston or Sayannah for cotton, in which case thay have the Gulf Stream with them to facilitate their passage; or to Brazil, or urther south, which is but a continuation of their voyage, or to any of the Gulf ports. This briefly is why Key West is. And this is its promise of, future prosperity. Although not the key of the Gulf, nor so named, for Cayo Hueso, its original spanish name, means simply "Bone Key," and has been merely corrupted into Key West, it-keeps an excellent watch upon the real key—Havana—and is a valuable point of observation for a vigitant sentine!

Havana—and is a valuable point of observation for a vigitant sentinel.

After twenty years of lethargy, in which ennut and the yellow fever have rivalled each other in depopulating its streets, Key west has become the rendezvous of the largest Geet ever concentrated at any one port on our coast. To night the largest and best vessels of the United States Navy ride at. anchor in its harbor, and each comes with a war record more or less brilliant, more or less gory. Their guns, have been heard at New Orleans, Mobile, Charleston and Fort Fisher. Recollections of these stormy days are occasionally revived by naval officers, who, paying visits among the vessels of the fieet, point out with a sign the places where a classmate or friend were killed "which the decks were sanded." Even poor Jack remembers where a classmate or friend were killed "which the decks were sanded." Even poor Jack remembers how an old messmate was lost off the fibboom or foreyard of one or other of these vessels. Yet the deck of a man-of-war is the Utopia of a naval deck of a man-of-war is the Utopia of a naval che admiration of the man before the mast. There are many associations connected with life on board a man-of-war which cannot be shaken off in after life.

The "penny wise and pound foolish" ideas of Congress in regard to the navy cannot be better exemplified than by a reference to the fleet which is now here. Were it not for the three monitors

picture was rife with the possibilities of war. Rumors more or less starting, all alike improbable, float around the fleet, and in the absence of any news serve as subjects for ward room talk most interesting.

FOR HUMANITY'S SAKE.

Despite the disadvantages under which the United States now labors as regards preparations for a naval war, the unanimous voice of the portion of the Suban question. The island has been a continual source of trouble not only to ourselves but to every nation having any commercial relations with its ports. Its laws, both State and municipal, are framed with an utter disregard for the best interests of every commercial and social relation with every other inhabitant of the world. The outraged sense of humanity calls for the abolition of a municipal government raised on all the blind selishness of the Middle Ages. This compromise, which has been effected at the sacrifice of so much national honor, is merely the superficial healing of a disease which will sooner or later break out again. American citizens are tracked around Havaus by Spanish spice, and the value of anybody's life is not reckoned worth the trouble which it would give the authorities to guarantee protection. Poor, wretched, homeless creatures are hunted in the forests of Cuba with bloodhounds, while a nation which sacrificed thousands of lives to suppress the very same barbarism in its own territory stands by and utters not one word of disapproval even for humanity's sake. With such a spirit, it is but just to say, the American navy does not agree.

The fleet which now lies at anchor of this harbor has been grathened together from all parts of the world either under the supposition that war was imminent or that the Spaniards were to be scared without fight. Whatever the reason here is the result:—it will require an equally long delay at any future time to mass an equal number of war vessels at his point. In a week, or two at most, there will have command. The agent point in the comminent of the country of the largest vesse

A PCLICE CHANGE IN CINCINNATI Troublesome Effect of Old Gambling

Connections. CINCINNATI, Jan. 18, 1874.

There was a revolution here yesterday in the head of the Police Department, caused by rather a singular circumstance. The retiring chief, Colonel Kiersted, who has been in office since April last, was deposed because, several years ago, he acted as an intermediate party in renting a house for gambling purposes. Colonel Kiersted's successor is Mr. Engene Daylor, a democratic captain of bolice, of good reputation. CINCINNATI, Jan. 18, 1874